

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rep. Rodriguez's Statement on Budget Passage

MADISON – State Representative Jessie Rodriguez (R-Franklin) released the following statement on the Assembly's approval of the 2015-17 state budget, as the two-year spending plan advances to the governor for his signature:

“The 2015-17 state budget funds vital services for our citizens without raising taxes, and prioritizes spending to keep our state moving forward. My top priority was funding for K-12 education, and the budget passed tonight restored the \$150 per pupil categorical aid in the first year and increased funding \$100 per pupil in the second year. I insisted on more money for our schools, so I consider it a win that I was able to secure over \$200 million in additional funding for K-12 education and \$50 million for the UW System.

“Thanks to our robust discussion on transportation funding, this budget will effectively reduce our state's transportation bonding to the lowest level in decades. The plan keeps completion of the Zoo Interchange on track, and ensures that this economic driver for our entire state is completed as scheduled.

“In my listening sessions and around my district, I heard from constituents concerned about our most vulnerable residents. This budget preserves SeniorCare, which helps seniors pay for their prescription medication, and continues the IRIS, self-directed option within the Family Care long-term care service system.

“I'm proud of the changes we made to improve this budget, which does not raise income or sales tax and holds the line on property taxes.”

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